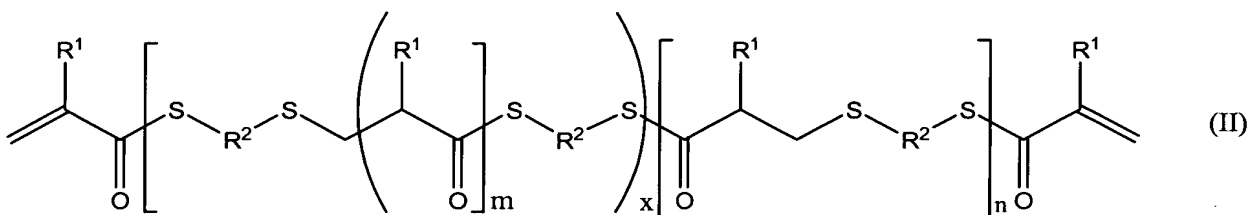
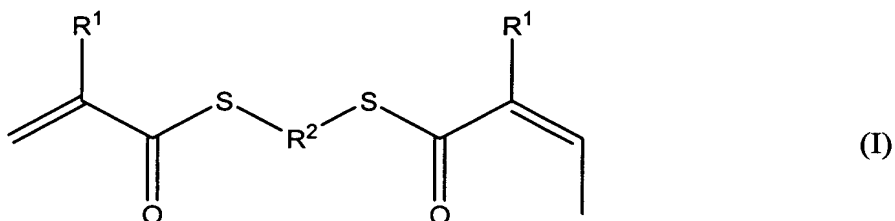


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a transparent plastic,  
 comprising:  
 polymerizing a mixture comprising the compounds of the formula I and formula II

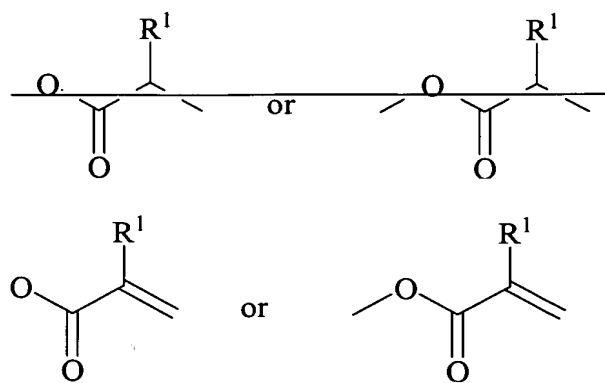


where  $R^1$  is independently at each instance hydrogen or a methyl radical,  $R^2$  is independently at each instance a linear or branched, aliphatic or cycloaliphatic radical or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic or heteroaromatic radical, and  $m$  and  $n$  are each independently an integer of not less than 0, subject to the proviso that  $m + n > 0$ , and

wherein the mixture contains more than 10 mol%, based on the total amount of the compound as per formula (I) and (II), of compounds of the formula (II) where  $m + n = 2$ , prepared by reacting, in the presence of a solvent L, 1.0 to less than 2.0 mol of at least one compound of the formula (III)



where X is chlorine or a radical of formula



with one mole of at least one polythiol of the formula (IV)



where M is independently at each instance hydrogen or a metal cation;

wherein the solvent L is at least one of acetone, acetonitrile, acetophenone, benzyl acetate, n-butyl acetate, quinoline, chlorobenzene, o-chlorotoluene, m-chlorotoluene, p-chlorotoluene, o-dichlorobenzene, m-dichlorobenzene, diethyl ether, diisopropyl ether, dimethyl phthalate, dipropyl ether, ethyl acetate, ethyl benzoate, ethyl butyrate, ethyl formate, ethyl salicylate, isoquinoline, 2-methoxyethyl acetate, methyl acetate, methyl benzoate, methyl butyrate, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl formate, methyl isoamyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, methyl propionate, 2-methylpyridine, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, methyl salicylate, nitrobenzene,

o-nitrotoluene, m-nitrotoluene, p-nitrotoluene, 2-pentanone, 3-pentanone, phenyl acetate, propyl formate, pyridine, tetrahydrofuran or mixtures thereof.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the polymerization is carried out under a protective gas atmosphere.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (III) is selected from the group consisting of acrylic anhydride, methacrylic anhydride and mixtures thereof.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one polythiol of the formula (IV) is ethanedithiol.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (IV) is reacted in the form of an aqueous alkaline solution which contains 1.1 to 1.5 equivalents of at least one Bronsted base, based on the total amount of the at least one compound of the formula (III).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (III) and the at least one compound of the formula (IV) are reacted by concurrent metering into a reaction vessel in at least one inert organic solvent L and in an aqueous alkaline solution, respectively.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the polymerization is carried out at temperatures in the range from 20°C to 80°C.

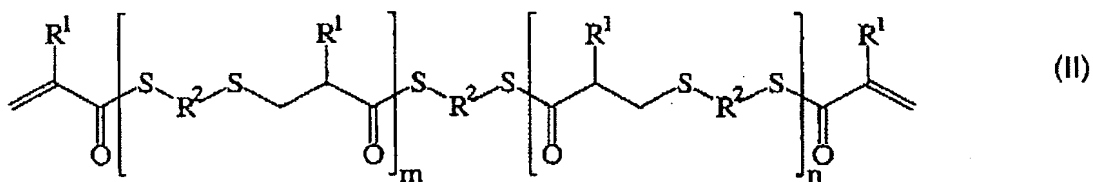
Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein an acidic ion exchanger is present during the polymerizing or during the reacting.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A transparent plastic prepared according to the process of Claim 1.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): An optical lens comprising the transparent plastic as claimed in Claim 9.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The optical lens of Claim 10, wherein the lens is an ophthalmic lens.

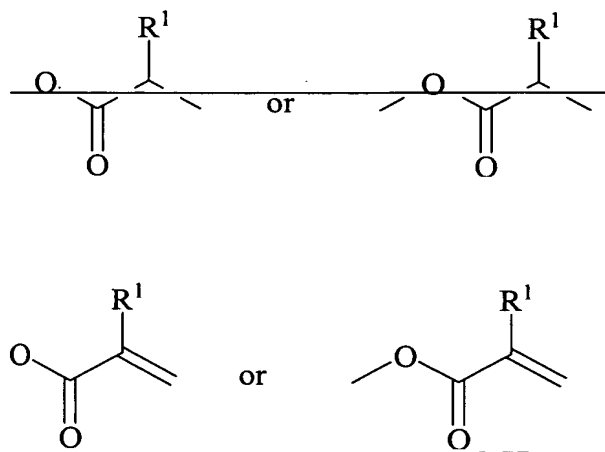
Claim 12 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): A process for preparing a mixture comprising the compounds of the formula I and formula II



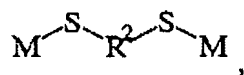
where  $R^1$  is independently at each instance hydrogen or a methyl radical,  $R^2$  is independently at each instance a linear or branched, aliphatic or cycloaliphatic radical or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic or heteroaromatic radical, and m and n are each independently an integer of not less than 0, subject to the proviso that  $m + n > 0$ , and wherein the mixture contains more than 10 mol%, based on the total amount of the compound as per formula (I) and (II), of compounds of the formula (II) where  $m + n = 2$ , wherein said process comprises:  
reacting 1.0 to less than 2.0 mol of at least one compound of the formula (III)



where X is chlorine or a radical of formula



with one mole of at least one polythiol of the formula (IV)



(IV)

where M is independently at each instance hydrogen or a metal cation.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): A mixture comprising the compounds of the formula I and formula II, prepared by the process of Claim 12.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the reaction is carried out under protective gas atmosphere.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (III) is selected from the group consisting of acrylic anhydride, methacrylic anhydride and mixtures thereof.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one polythiol of the formula (IV) is ethanedithiol.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (IV) is reacted in the form of an aqueous alkaline solution which contains 1.1 to 1.5 equivalents of at least one Bronsted base, based on the total amount of the at least one compound of the formula (III).

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein during the reacting the at least one compound of the formula (III) and the at least one compound of the

formula (IV) are concurrently metered into a reaction vessel in at least one inert organic solvent L and in an aqueous alkaline solution, respectively.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the reacting is carried out at temperatures in the range from 20°C to 80°C.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein an acidic ion exchanger is present during the reacting.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein from 1.1 to 1.8 mol of the compound of formula (III) is reacted with 1 mol of the polythiol of formula (IV).

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 1, wherein 1.2 to 1.6 mol of the compound of formula (III) is reacted with 1 mol of the compound of formula (IV).

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 1, wherein from 1.2 to 1.5 mol of at least one compound of formula (III) is reacted with 1 mol of at least one polythiol of formula (IV).

Claim 24 (Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein from 1.1 to 1.8 mol of the compound of formula (III) is reacted with 1 mol of the polythiol of formula (IV).

Claim 25 (Withdrawn): The process of Claim 12, wherein 1.2 to 1.6 mol of the compound of formula (III) is reacted with 1 mol of the compound of formula (IV).

Claim 26 (Withdrawn): The process of Claim 12, wherein from 1.2 to 1.5 mol of at least one compound of formula (III) is reacted with 1 mol of at least one polythiol of formula (IV).

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by ~~reacting~~ polymerizing a mixture comprising the product of the reaction of the compound of formula (III) with and the compound of formula (IV) to form the transparent plastic having ~~and has~~ a refractive index of greater than 1.608.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by ~~reacting~~ polymerizing a mixture comprising the product of the reaction of the compound of formula (III) with and the compound of formula (IV) to form the transparent plastic having ~~and has~~ an Abbe number above 36.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by ~~reacting~~ polymerizing a mixture comprising the product of the reaction of the compound of formula (III) with and the compound of formula (IV) and has to form the transparent plastic having a refractive index of greater than 1.608 and an Abbe number above 36.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended, Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by ~~reacting~~ polymerizing a mixture comprising the product of the reaction of the compound of formula (III) with and the compound of formula (IV) and has to form the transparent plastic having a refractive index of greater than 1.608.



Claim 31 (Currently Amended, Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by ~~reacting~~ polymerizing a mixture comprising the product of the reaction of the compound of formula (III) ~~with~~ and the compound of formula (IV) ~~and has to form the transparent plastic having~~ an Abbe number above 36.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended, Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by ~~reacting~~ polymerizing a mixture comprising the product of the reaction of the compound of formula (III) ~~with~~ and the compound of formula (IV) ~~and has to form the transparent plastic having~~ a refractive index of greater than 1.608 and an Abbe number above 36.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by ~~reacting~~ polymerizing a mixture comprising the product of the reaction of the compound of formula (III) ~~with~~ and the compound of the formula (IV) ~~and has to form the transparent plastic having~~ a refractive index of greater than 1.61 and an Abbe number of greater than 39.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended, Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by ~~reacting~~ polymerizing a mixture comprising the product of the reaction of the compound of formula (III) ~~with~~ and the compound of the formula (IV) ~~and has to form the transparent plastic having~~ a refractive index of greater than 1.61 and an Abbe number of greater than 39.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the solvent L is ethylacetate.

Claim 36 (Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the reacting is carried out in ethylacetate.

Claim 37 (New): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the compounds of formula (I) and (II) are the only polymerizable compounds in the mixture.

Claim 38 (New): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the compounds of formula (I) and (II) are the only polymerizable compounds in the mixture.